



DEAR DONORS, 2014 is almost finished. In Cusco we look back to an exciting and very special year.

There have been some major shifts in the business structure of Niños. I have put a lot of effort into these changes and I am very happy with the results that are slowly showing. Like 18 years ago, my main focus and passion is still in helping the poorest children of Cusco. Therefore I decided to start studying, which will deepen my knowledge and help me to support the children on a more profound level.

In this newsletter we will tell you about all these changes; the important steps that Yoryet and Alfredo have taken within the organization, a special encounter with an ex participant of the Niños project, the reconstruction and changes to our Niños buildings and hotels, the beautiful photo project that Hervé has started, the new Judo classes and the developments around the movie that will be inspired by my life story. As you can see we did not stand still. But one thing is for sure: without your help and support we could not have achieved any of our projects. Therefore, our deepest appreciation goes to all of you, amazing donors. Thank you.

I WISH YOU MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A LOVING 2015!

Jolanda van den Berg

A TOUCHING RE-ENCOUNTER WITH NAISHA

Niños project 1999

Naisha is a 7 year old girl. Her primary school teacher has subscribed her to participate at Niños. Niños is a foundation that

helps children from the poorest families who suffer from extreme poverty. The family situation and the life of Naisha are not so easy. She doesn't know much about her father. What she knows is that her 9 brothers and sisters are not from the same father. The man that she now has to call 'dad' is not her real father. Her mother works at the market and sells boiled eggs. She is always very tired when she comes home from work and immediately falls asleep on the mat at the muddy floor. Every day her mother needs to get up at 6 am to go to the market again. Although Naisha loves her mother, she finds it hard to understand why she gets angry very easily and then starts to hit her. Her older sister follows this example, so it is often a better idea to hang around on the streets than being at home. Especially when her 'dad' gets drunk. Then she stays outside until late at night while waiting for her mother to come home from work.

School is no fun as well. As her mother can not afford to buy any school materials, the teachers always yells at her or wants to talk to her mother explaining that there is no point of Naisha being at school without any school material. The school uniform that she has to wear is not complete and has many holes, as all of her sisters have used the uniform before. The biggest issue are her shoes. They are way too small and therefore hurting her feet. Unfortunately those were the only ones her mam could find on the second hand market.

Sometimes Naisha longs for the old days, when the family was still living in a little mountain village, where other family members were close so she could go to them when her home situation would get unbearable. But, looking back, she also has to admit that life in the mountains was harsh, because of the rainy muddy days and very cold winter nights. She could never sleep at night with all the strange noises of other family members. There was only one bed that had to be shared with 4 family members, whereas the rest of the people needed to sleep on the floor. It was never comfortable and Naisha

rarely felt at ease...

Naisha September 2014

Yoryet, the new head of the Niños program, bumps into Naisha while walking on the street. It is a touching re-encounter, because both of them still clearly remember where and how they first met. This happened in 1999 at the first child restaurant of the Niños project, where Yoryet was working as a child supervisor. Yoryet could not believe her eyes when she sees Naisha standing in front of her as a strong and happy woman. Naisha has become a grown up woman, with beautiful hair, a curious smile and happy eyes. When Yoryet asks her how she is doing they decide to go for a coffee together to catch up on their lives. Naisha tells about her journey after she finalized the Niños program, her inner journey. How she found a way to create a better life for herself developing her own strength, perseverance and wisdom. About how she decided to study and how she found a way to even finish her study. How all that she has learned and experienced from her 7th to 12th age influenced her on making the right choices in her life. She also tells about how, at difficult moments, she called in her heart for all the people she knew from the Niños project. At these times, she recalled all the seemingly little moments which made such a difference in her life: having an own tooth brush with her name on it, having her own birthday cake and people singing a birthday song for her, creating an own little booklet with funny quotes about herself, which she made together with her care taker. She thought back to the pictures, the little cards and memories of the Niños program. She felt very supported at difficult times at home, when she was feeling lonely again or studying without anybody to help her.

It was a very special encounter for both women. And for me, Jolanda, it was a huge present to receive this story of one of our children.

RECONSTRUCTION AT NIÑOS IN 2014



From the beginning of the youth program in 2012 Jolanda had a dream to realize a real youth house for the growing numbers of youngsters in the Niños project. A place where the youth could relax and find peace away, a place of their own with no young children around. Where they could concentrate on their homework (most of them do not have a chair or a table at their home), but also could have some fun and laughter and be foolish with their peers. With the award from the so called: 'Vastenactie 2013' (a Dutch fund) this dream finally came true. Participants from the youth project are now

having - just like the children - an own place to stay and a decent shelter for 6 days a week. They receive two warm meals a day, the possibility to take a hot shower, to participate in a social program (called 'circle talks') and to use the sport facilities. It is in this high school period when the youngsters really need a safe and warm place to do their homework. At this time they need to develop their social behaviour and contact with friends is very important in this respect.

With the award from Vastenactie 2013 we received a worthy contribution to realize the dream of Jolanda of creating a youth house. The child restaurant behind the Niños hotel at Calle Fierro has been moved to the first child restaurant area. We decided to reconstruct the area where the former apartments for our hotel guests were situated, and created a big room and kitchen for our youngsters. It has become a beautiful spacious room. In this youth house we will provide all the facilities that the youngsters need: a dining room, a relax area with couches, a library, computer, and a play area with darts and other games.

This change gave us some extra space to create new hotel rooms, as we decided to stop

offering any more apartments to our guests. This change also has the advantage that the children and youngsters will not create any more noise disturbance to the hotel guests at Calle Fierro and that the hotel guests have a second yard where they can relax and enjoy the sun. The existing gym hall will stay at the same location. The reconstruction gave us the possibility to arrange the Niños projects and the Niños Hotels more effectively, so they will be able to grow in a solid and effective way in the future. Our deepest appreciation goes to the Vastenactie Fund and the Parochie St. Maarten for their huge help in realizing and developing this very necessary youth project.



NEW: MORE CONFIDENCE THROUGH JUDO!

Within the child and youth program we focus on making the children defensible, so the children grow stronger on a mental and physical level. The well known 'circle talks' give the children and youngsters a boost in their self-confidence. We also offer self-defence courses on a regular base.

Not long ago we met a great Judo teacher, named Joel, who wanted to help us in this goal to make our children stronger. Judo is a full contact sport and is a great way to teach the children how to deal with physical contact, to make them more self-assured and to teach them discipline. Together with Joel we have the ambition to realize a judo club, where people from outside the Niños project can get judo classes at night. They bring income to pay the salary of Joel and teach our Niños participants during the day-



time. We did have had some trial classes already, and the results were remarkable: the children loved and really embraced Judo! They are immensely motivated so the plan is to participate in the national competition in the future, where the children can represent Niños.

Call for action:

We are still in need for uniforms regarding his Judo project. Every Judoka will admit that a uniform is essential to do this sport in the right way. The Judo mats on the picture are rented. If anybody has contacts in the Judo society or wants to help this specific project, please get in touch with Zita by zita@stichtingninos.com

A MOVIE ABOUT THE LIFE OF JOLANDA

As we mentioned earlier in one of our newsletters, our board member Karen van Holst Pellekaan, who is a movie and television scenarist, is writing a movie script about the life of Jolanda. She is doing this together with her colleague and friend Marnie Blok. Together they are the creators of some successful Dutch movies and TV shows.

Karen and Marnie received an award of the Dutch Film Fund at the end of 2013 to write a story about Jolanda. They have travelled to Cusco to do research on this. The writers became very inspired, but also came to the conclusion that - because of several reasons - it would be impossible to situate the film in Peru. It would become too complicated and difficult to film at this location and nearly impossible to finance the shootings in the area of Cusco. They had to find a different entrance to the story, so the couple decided to change the location of the film to Europe. After some research Karen and Marnie decided on Bucharest, the capital of Romania. The horrible circumstances from the street children of this city, who often have to live in gutters, are nothing less than the situation of street children in Cusco. Maybe it is even more harsh over there, as their lives are lo-

cated just a few steps away from the wealthy Western society. They decided to travel with a Romanian guide to Bucharest to do some more research on this location. It was a very impetuous journey, but the writer's couple gathered enough information to write the scenario for the film.

The story is and will still be inspired by the life of Jolanda, but the writers had to change some details of the story. This was



necessary after the feedback of the Dutch Film Fund, who - when reading the first concept - found it unlikely that a woman like Jolanda could have lived the described life. Our Niños donors from the first hour, who always have read our newsletters, will know in which difficult and harsh situations Jolanda has been. And what she has had accomplished with these experiences! But, how bizarre, her story seems to be too unlikely for most people. The writers decided

to weaken some of the facts. They also added some details to the story to find a bit more drama, excitement and a clear start and ending of the movie.

At this very moment, Karen and Marnie are still busy writing. Also, a very good producer has decided to contribute to the film. A German co-producer has also shown his interest in the movie. Not all readers will know this, but making a movie is a very time consuming project. It normally takes years to get from an idea to a real movie. The writers will definitely be writing on this story for another half or maybe another full year. Then the producer has to find a way to realize the financial part. We are talking about big sums here, as realizing a movie is a very expensive business.

But one thing is for sure: there is full confidence that this important movie with the heart-breaking story around the lives of street children from Bucharest will reach the cinemas. The film recording is planned in the summer of 2016 and the release of the film in 2017. So we still need to have some more patience. But the moment the film will see the light; it certainly will bring a lot of attention to all neglected children in general and especially our Niños in Cusco.

YORYET & ALFREDO AND THE NEW ROAD OF JOLANDA

At this moment, they are definitely our stars! Yoryet and Alfredo changed their job position about half a year ago. And a big change it was. Alfredo is now head of the Niños Hotels and responsible for all operational duties and the staff. Yoryet became deputy director of the Niños Foundation in Peru. The jobs are tough and challenging, and Jolanda is still directing and encouraging them to find their own way in managing their new position.

Yoryet and Alfredo also started a study in business administration at the University and therefore became fellow students. We are incredibly proud that we found a solution for these two vacancies within the Niños Projects and we are confident that this



change will lead to new chances and positive changes in the future.

For Jolanda herself this new steps means a lot. It makes it possible for her to step back from the daily leading role in the Hotels and the Foundation. She finally found a way to create time

to follow her dream to coach children and adults and to realize training programs for her employees. To give this new role a solid basis, she has started a study with the support of the international acknowledged

Phoenix Institute in the Netherlands. We will tell you more about her new work as a coach and trainer in the next newsletter. The plan is that she will start with her new role from March 2015 on!

CALL FOR AMBASSADORS!

One person can make a change. Yes, you as well! As an ambassador of the Niños Foundation you help to raise awareness and attention for the work of Jolanda and the Niños Foundation within your social environment, such as a school, an organization, a society or an association in your neighbourhood. The more people you can reach out to, the more children we can support in Cusco. Your help really makes the change!

Interested? Send a mail to Zita:
zita@stichtingninos.com



EYES THAT SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

A UNIQUE PHOTO BOOK OF HERVÉ HUGHES ABOUT THE LIVES OF OUR NIÑOS

Hervé first learned about the children in 2010, when he arrived in Cusco for a photo project about the inhabitants of the Andes Mountains. This is when he met Jolanda van den Berg and was introduced to her Niños Foundation, where the poorest children of Cusco find a safe and caring daily shelter. What struck him the most when he started taking the pictures of these children were their eyes. They speak so much louder than words. Then he realized that they had

captured his heart and that he would be staying for a while.

He wanted to do something for these beautiful children of the Andes. He started to create a unique photography project, with pictures of all 600 children from the Niños Project. Each portrait tells a unique story about Niños. The result led to beautiful prints, which we now want to show to the world. That is why Hervé decided to collect his work in a Niños photo book.

THE NIÑOS PHOTO BOOK - AN ODE TO THE CHILDREN OF PERU

The photo book of Hervé is an ode to the children of Niños in the first place and secondly an ode to all children of Peru. At

the same time it is a contribution of Hervé to generate extra income for the Niños programs. The realization of the book was possible through the contribution of 109 contributors in a Niños crowd funding project, in which we managed to raise more than 7500 euro within November 2014. 100% of the sales of the photo book will be donated to the Niños Foundation. Thanks to all the contributors we managed to realize another Niños business opportunity, which will help us in maintaining this important help for the poorest children of the Andes.

The Niños photo book will be sold at the Niños Hotels and via our Niños webshop (worldwide delivery possible): webshop.stichtingninos.com



MESSAGES FROM OUR SECRETARIAT

DIRECT DEBIT

More than 1200 donors have authorized us to automatically cash their donation. This is for you as well as for us an easy way to pay your contribution and it saves us a lot of administrative work. Many others transfer the money themselves straight to our bank account. If you should wish to have your contribution sent to us automatically, please let us know by sending an e-mail to: info@stichtingninos.com. We will send you the necessary form.

NEW BANK ACCOUNT

Please note that the Niños Foundation has a new bank account since July 2013. The number is NL85 RABO 0123 2663 19 (IBAN) and BIC: RABONL2U in the name of Stichting Niños Unidos Peruanos in The Hague. We would like to urge all donors who transfer donations to our old account at the Deutsche Bank (43.99.71.365), to update their information to our new account number. Unfortunately, this change also requires commitment from you as a donor. If you are using automatic periodic transfers for your donation, we would like to ask you to adjust this to the new bank account.

Attention! Automatic payments issued by the Foundation through an authorization can be modified by us. In this case you do not have to change your information.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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